

CLAIMS

1. A method of interpreting a control command given on a touch screen of a portable electronic device, in which method the combination of a touch on an area interpreted as a contact area and a release of the touch from
5 the area interpreted as said same contact area is interpreted as a control command, **characterized** by interpreting, once the contact area (200) has been touched, a larger contact area (202) as said same contact area for the release of the touch than the contact area before the touch.

2. A method as claimed in claim 1, **characterized** by the larger
10 contact area (202) for the release of the touch including, not only the contact area (200) for the touch, but also part of the area adjacent to the contact area (200).

3. A method as claimed in claim 1, **characterized** by interpreting the larger contact area (202) for the release of the touch to include, not
15 only the contact area (200) for the touch, but also an expansion of the contact area (200) for the touch in each free direction.

4. A method as claimed in claim 3, **characterized** by interpreting the larger contact area (202) for the release of the touch to include, not
20 only the contact area (200) for the touch, but also an equally large expansion of the contact area (200) for the touch in each free direction.

5. A method as claimed in claim 1, **characterized** by the larger contact area (202) for the release of the touch being at least 25 percent larger than the contact area (200) for the touch.

6. A method as claimed in claim 1, **characterized** by performing signalling once the contact area (200, 202) has been touched.
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7. A method as claimed in claim 6, **characterized** by said signalling being a light, voice or vibration signal.

8. A method as claimed in claim 6, **characterized** by continuing the signalling as long as the touch remains in the area (200, 202) that is
30 interpreted as the contact area and that was touched.

9. A portable electronic device comprising a touch screen (106) having a plurality of contacts areas and a control unit (100) for interpreting control commands given on the touch screen, in which device the combination of a touch on an area interpreted as a contact area and a release of the touch from
35 the area interpreted as said same contact area is interpreted as a control command, **characterized** in that, once the contact area has been touched,

the control unit (100) is configured to interpret a larger contact area as said same contact area for the release of the touch than the contact area before the touch.

10. A device as claimed in claim 9, **characterized** in that the
5 control unit (100) is configured to interpret the larger contact area for the release of the touch including, not only the contact area for the touch, but also part of the area adjacent to the contact area.

11. A device as claimed in claim 9, **characterized** in that the
10 control unit (100) is configured to interpret the larger contact area for the release of the touch to include, not only the contact area for the touch, but also an equally large expansion of the contact area for the touch in each free direction.

12. A device as claimed in claim 9, **characterized** in that the
15 control unit (100) is configured to interpret the larger contact area for the release of the touch to be at least 25 percent larger than the contact area for the touch.

13. A device as claimed in claim 9, **characterized** in that it includes means (100, 114, 106) for performing signalling once the contact area has been touched.

20 14. A device as claimed in claim 13, **characterized** in that said signalling is a light, voice or vibration signal.

15. A device as claimed in claim 13, **characterized** in that it includes means (100, 114, 106) for continuing the signalling until the touch remains in the area that is interpreted as the contact area and that was touched.

25 16. A device as claimed in claim 9, **characterized** in that the portable electronic device is a mobile station.

17. A device as claimed in claim 9, **characterized** in that the portable electronic device is a PDA (Personal Digital Assistant) device or a portable computer.

30 18. A device as claimed in claim 17, **characterized** in that the device comprises means (100, 108, 110) for establishing a telecommunication connection or a short-range wireless connection.

19. A device as claimed in claim 18, **characterized** in that the telecommunication connection is an Internet connection.

35 20. A device as claimed in claim 18, **characterized** in that the short-range wireless connection is a Bluetooth, infrared or WLAN connection.